

What Is Claimed Is:

1 1. A system of distributing electronic content
2 comprising:

3 a network operations center generating a broadcast signal
4 having digital electronic content;

5 a communication backbone coupled to said network
6 operations center;

7 a base station receiving said broadcast signal from said
8 backbone, said base station receiving said broadcast signal and forming a
9 wireless local area network, said base station rebroadcasting at least a
10 portion of said broadcast signal as a rebroadcast signal using said wireless
11 local network; and

12 a user appliance positioned with said local area network and
13 receiving said rebroadcast signal.

1 2. A system as recited in claim 1 further comprising a
2 television coupled to said base station, said television receiving at least a
3 portion of said broadcast signal.

1 3. A system as recited in claim 1 wherein said base
2 station forms said rebroadcast signal from said digital electronic content.

1 4. A system as recited in claim 1 wherein said
2 electronic content comprises digital audio signals.

1 5. A system as recited in claim 1 wherein said
2 electronic content comprises video.

1 6. A system as recited in claim 1 wherein said
2 backbone comprises a high altitude device, cable or fiber optic cable.

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1 7. A system as recited in claim 1 wherein said high
2 altitude device comprises a satellite.

1 8. A system as recited in claim 1 wherein said high
2 altitude device comprises a stratospheric platform.

1 9. A system as recited in claim 1 wherein said base
2 station comprises an integrated receiver decoder.

1 10. A system as recited in claim 1 wherein said
2 rebroadcast signal is a compressed signal.

1 11. A system as recited in claim 1 wherein said
2 backbone comprises a cable network.

1 12. A system as recited in claim 1 wherein said
2 backbone comprises a fiber optic network.

1 13. A method of distributing electronic content
2 comprising the steps of:

3 coupling electronic content to a redistribution device;
4 receiving the electronic content from the redistribution
5 device;

6 over-the-air broadcasting the electronic content; and
7 receiving the electronic content through a user appliance.

1 14. A method as recited in claim 13 wherein the step of
2 receiving over-the-air broadcasting comprises over-the-air broadcasting
3 from a base station.

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1 15. A method as recited in claim 13 wherein the step of
2 receiving over-the-air broadcasting comprises forming a local area
3 network with the user appliance.

1 16. A method of distributing electronic content
2 comprising the steps of:

3 broadcasting a television signal as a electronic content;

4 receiving the electronic content;

5 digitally compressing the electronic content into a
6 compressed signal; and

7 rebroadcasting the compressed signal using a wireless local
8 area network.

1 17. A method as recited in claim 16 further comprising
2 the steps of receiving the compressed signaling at a user appliance.

1 18. A method as recited in claim 16 wherein the step of
2 receiving comprises the steps of digitally decompressing the digital video
3 stream, and displaying the video stream.

1 19. A base station comprising:
2 a receiving antenna for receiving electronic content;
3 compression software for compressing the electronic
4 content into a compressed signal;
5 a transmitting area network antenna; and
6 a wireless local area network interface coupled to the
7 transmitting area network antenna and broadcasting the compressed
8 signal through the transmitting area network antenna as a rebroadcast
9 signal.

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